GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3204
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2016
Shortage of Staff in PSKs
Rathod Shri Dipsinh Shankarsinh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge shortage of staff in various Regional Passport Offices (RPOs)/Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs) in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill the vacant posts at the earliest?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) & (b) As on date, against the sanctioned strength of 2697 of Central Passport Organization and 21 posts sanctioned by the Union Cabinet for the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Passport Seva Project, there are 38 vacancies at Group 'A' level, 56 at Group 'B' Gazetted level and 346 at Group 'B' non-Gazetted and Group 'C' level.

(c) The Government has taken following steps to fill up the existing vacancies at the Passport Offices:

(i) The regular placement of indent for recruitment of Lower Division Clerks, Assistants, Hindi Translators and Stenographers with Staff Selection Commission (SSC). The Staff Selection Commission has completed the recruitment process and has already sent dossiers for 630 Assistants/Lower Division Clerks for appointment in Passport Offices. 391 Lower Division Clerks and 56 Assistants have recently joined through Staff Selection Commission. The Ministry has also deployed 450 Data Entry Operators as an interim measure against the vacant non-Gazetted posts for smooth functioning of the Passport Offices.

(ii) To fill up the existing vacancies at the Passport Offices through fast track promotion, wherever necessary with the relaxation of eligibility norms in consultation and with the approval of Department of Personnel & Training and Union Public Service Commission. From September 2008 to June 2015, 3260 officials have been promoted in various grades.

(iii) Appointing the officers on deputation basis as per Recruitment Rules of Assistant Passport Officer, Deputy Passport Officer and Passport Officer.